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871—26.2(17A,96) Definitions. Terms defined in the Iowa employment security law and the Iowa administrative procedure Act and which are used in these rules shall have the same meaning as provided by such laws. In addition, the following words and terms when used in this chapter shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Contested case" means a proceeding defined in Iowa Code section 17A.2(5) and includes any matter defined as a no factual dispute contested case in 1998 Iowa Acts, chapter 1202, section 14. It specifically includes any appeal from a determination of a representative of the department or any appeal or request for a hearing by an employer or employing unit from an experience rating, charge determination or other decision affecting its liability. Except as provided in subrule 26.17(5), a final decision of the employment appeal board of the department of inspections and appeals shall constitute final agency action. A presiding officer's decision shall be the final decision of the department if there is no appeal therefrom to the employment appeal board of the department of inspections and appeals.

"Party" means each person or agency named or admitted as a party or properly seeking and entitled as of right to be admitted as a party.

"Presiding officer" means an administrative law judge employed by the department of workforce development.